

**To:** Washburn, Ben[washburn.ben@epa.gov]  
**From:** Hood, Rich  
**Sent:** Fri 6/21/2013 8:11:10 PM  
**Subject:** RE: OPA Daily Digest 6/21/13

Ben,

Please change Karl's meeting with Carter Carburetor to a listening session (on June 27). Then this will be good to go.

Rich Hood

Associate Regional Administrator

For Media, Intergovernmental Relations

913-551-7906

(cell) 913-339-8327

**From:** Washburn, Ben  
**Sent:** Friday, June 21, 2013 2:47 PM  
**To:** Hood, Rich  
**Subject:** OPA Daily Digest 6/21/13

## **OPA Daily Digest for 6/21/13**

### **Congressional Inquiries:**

**Sen. Deb Fischer (Neb)** – 6/20/13: Constituent concerns regarding a contract awarded on the Madison County Superfund Site. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

### **State Government Inquiries:**

None

## **Press Inquiries:**

**KTVI Channel 2, St. Louis** – Bonita Cornute – 6/21/13: Questions about June 25 public meeting for the West Lake Landfill Site. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

**KSHB Channel 41, Kansas City** – Zach Tecklenburg – 6/21/13: Question about impact of Kansas City, Kan., Board of Public Utilities' decision to phase out use of coal at its Quindaro Power Plant. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

## **Environmental Stories:**

**Global Cement - EPA fines Ash Grove US\$2.5m** - 6/21/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has fined Ash Grove Cement US\$2.5m and is forcing the American cement producer to invest US\$30m in pollution controls at its plants in nine US states that are alleged to have violated the Clean Air Act.

[http://www.globalcement.com/news/item/1743-epa-fines-ash-grove-us\\$25m](http://www.globalcement.com/news/item/1743-epa-fines-ash-grove-us$25m)

**Associated Press - Some residents oppose Wyo.-EPA frack study deal** - 6/21/13 - Some Wyoming residents say they were cut out of a deal that has the state government taking over further study of tainted drinking water in their area from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA theorized in 2011 the petroleum industry practice of hydraulic fracturing may have contaminated the groundwater near the town of Pavillion. The EPA now says it won't finish or have outside experts review the research.

<http://www.kansas.com/2013/06/20/2856492/apnewsbreak-epa-wont-confirm-frack.html>

**Chicago Now - Atrazine: The EPA-approved, EU-banned chemical in your body right now** - 6/21/13 - Sometimes things happen in life. Cars crash, chips fall, hearts attack. Sometimes children die and it's completely a chance event, one that you can't dwell on finding causes or spend your life answering unanswerable questions like, "why my child"? And then there are events in life that have causes. For example, drunk drivers made the choice to get behind the wheel, so people get angry and form campaigns and make laws. Sometimes a domino falls because it is pushed.

<http://www.chicagonow.com/high-gloss-and-sauce/2013/06/atrazine-birth-defects-atrazine-water-supply-the-eu-banned-chemical-in-your-body-right-now-06212013/>

**Biodiesel Magazine - US EPA approves EcoEngineers, Genscape importer RIN QAPs** - 6/21/13 - While RIN quality assurance programs (QAP) by several third-party auditors have been approved by U.S. EPA for domestic RINs—including EcoEngineers, Genscape, EM Biofuels, First Environment, Frazier Barnes & Associates/RIN Attest and Advisory Services, and Weaver & Tidwell—so far only two firms' QAPs, EcoEngineers and Genscape, have been approved for biodiesel produced at foreign facilities and imported to the U.S.

<http://www.biodieselmagazine.com/articles/9172/us-epa-approves-ecoengineers-genscape-importer-rin-qaps>

**Maryland Heights Patch - Radioactive Waste at Landfill a Concern for Citizens** - 6/21/13 - Missouri state representative Bill Otto is considered by the nuclear waste at the controversial Bridgeton landfill. During a special meeting at Pattonville High School on Monday, Otto called for the emergency removal of nuclear waste in the West Lake Landfill, according to a report from Fox 2. Otto's call for action comes after his advisors found errors in a 1974 government document.

<http://marylandheights.patch.com/groups/around-town/p/radioactive-waste-at-landfill-a-concern-for-citizens>

**Christian Science Monitor - Obama's cold calculation on global warming** - 6/20/13 - As president, Barack Obama has never visited North Dakota. Does that matter? Yes, if he now acts to effectively shut down hundreds of coal-burning power plants, a regulatory move that officials say is only days away.

<http://www.csmonitor.com/Commentary/the-monitors-view/2013/0620/Obama-s-cold-calculation-on-global-warming>

**Kansas City Star - U.S. leadership needed on greenhouse gas reduction** - 6/20/13 - President Barack Obama is right to act now to try to reduce carbon emissions in the United States. Obama is preparing regulations to limit the ozone damaging substance. About 40 percent of greenhouse gas comes from power plant emissions, The New York Times reports.

<http://www.kansascity.com/2013/06/20/4304352/us-leadership-needed-on-greenhouse.html>

**Fox News - EPA won't confirm fracking pollution tie, tells states to do their own investigation** - 6/21/13 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced Thursday it is dropping its longstanding plan to have independent scientists review its finding that hydraulic fracturing may be linked to groundwater pollution in central Wyoming.

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2013/06/21/epa-wont-confirm-frack-pollution-tie/>

**Daily Caller - EPA fails to link fracking to water contamination for the third time** - 6/20/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency announced that it is dropping its plans to issue a report on whether hydraulic

fracturing caused groundwater contamination in Wyoming. The agency said it will no longer have outside experts review that theory.

<http://dailycaller.com/2013/06/21/epa-fails-to-link-fracking-to-water-contamination-for-the-third-time/>

**Reuters - EPA ends probe of Wyoming water pollution linked to fracking** - 6/21/13 - The Obama administration on Thursday dropped plans to further investigate preliminary federal findings that linked contamination of a Wyoming aquifer to natural gas drilling, following industry backlash that called the study into question. The draft report released by the Environmental Protection Agency in late 2011 sent shockwaves through the oil and gas sector, by finding that hydraulic fracturing fluids used in shale gas drilling had likely contaminated groundwater in Pavillion, Wyoming.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/06/20/us-usa-epa-fracking-idUSBRE95J1AN20130620>

**Wall Street Journal - EPA Drops Fracking Probe in Wyoming** - 6/20/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency said Thursday that it would drop an investigation that had linked contaminated water to natural-gas drilling in Wyoming, in a boost for Encana Corp. and other firms that practice the drilling technique known as hydraulic fracturing.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323893504578558093244210584.html>

**Daily Caller - Senators introduces bill to repeal EPA's ethanol mandate** - 6/20/13 - A bipartisan group of senators introduced legislation Thursday to fully repeal the federal ethanol mandate, which has been blamed for increasing fuel and food prices. The federal Renewable Fuel Standard, which is run by the Environmental Protection Agency, has come under increased congressional scrutiny after the agency denied states waivers from the program last year.

<http://dailycaller.com/2013/06/21/senate-introduces-bill-to-repeal-epas-ethanol-mandate/>

**The Hill - EPA abandons study that linked fracking, Wyoming water pollution** - 6/20/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency said Thursday that it won't finalize a draft 2011 study that concluded water pollution in a Wyoming region might stem from hydraulic fracturing, the controversial oil-and-gas development method. The decision to abandon the probe quickly buoyed gas industry advocates of the method dubbed "fracking," who say it's a safe practice.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/306961-epa-wont-confirm-fracking-link-to-wyoming-water-pollution->

**OPB - EPA Defends Ash Grove Cement Settlement** - 6/21/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency is defending the way it reached a settlement announced Wednesday with a cement-maker with operations in eastern Oregon. Ash Grove Cement officials say they agreed to a \$30 million settlement with the EPA to avoid the costs of defending the company in court against a federal initiative aimed at the cement industry.

<http://www.opb.org/news/article/epa-defends-ash-grove-cement-settlement/>

**Idaho Statesman - Idaho feedlot reaches settlement with EPA - 6/21/13** - The Environmental Protection Agency has reached a settlement with an Idaho cattle feedlot accused of dumping pollutants into the Boise River. EPA officials say that in 2011, W/T Land & Cattle dumped animal waste into the river during and after flood events without a permit. The feedlot is located on the banks of the river near Notus.

<http://www.idahostatesman.com/2013/06/21/2625998/idaho-feedlot-reaches-settlement.html>

**Press Releases:**

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

**Fact Sheets:**

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

**Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:**

\* New additions noted with an asterisk

**6/23-25/13** - Senior Leadership Retreat – Washington, DC. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**6/25/13** – West Lake Public Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Debbie Kring, 7725

**\*6/25/13** – Meet with Senator Claire McCaskill, Washington DC. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555

**\*6/25/13** – Meet with Senator Deb Fischer, Washington DC. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555

**\*6/26/13** – Meet with Missouri Coalition for the Environment, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566

**\*6/26/13** – Meet with St. Louis Airport Officials and MDNR, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Audrey Asher, 7255

**6/27/13** – Carter Carburetor Public Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Belinda Young, 7463

**\*7/2/13** – Meet and Greet with Harold Draper, President of the National Association of Environmental Professionals, Regional Office. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**\*7/11/13** – All Hands Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Amanda Halstead, 7827

**7/15-16/13** – Annual Budget Forum, Washington DC, Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**\*7/18/13** – Kansas City Bi-State Brownfields Coalition Kick-Off Event, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Belinda Young, 7463

**7/25/13** – Missouri Environmental Conference at the Lake – Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Dave Cozad, 7587

**7/26/13** – 2013 Regional Local Emergency Planning and Response Conference, Overland Park, Kan. Contact: Patrick Bustos, 7969

**8/14-15/13** – Iowa Farm Environmental Leader Awards Ceremony, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

**DRA:**

**\*7/2/13** – Meet and Greet with Harold Draper, President of the National Association of Environmental Professionals, Regional Office. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**\*7/11/13** – All Hands Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Amanda Halstead, 7827

**7/15-16/13** – Annual Budget Forum, Washington DC. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**7/17-18/13** - Executive Management Council, Washington DC, Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

**\*7/18/13** – FY2013 Cross Cutting Fundamental Strategy Mid-Year Progress Meeting, Washington DC. Contact:

Dana Peters, 7444

**RA/Immediate Office**

None

**Other Events**

**AWMD**

None

**CNSL**

None

**ECO/EJ**

None

**ENSV**

None

**PLMG**

None

**RA/OPA**

**6/25/13** – West Lake Public Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Debbie Kring, 7725

**6/27/13** – Carter Carburetor Public Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Belinda Young, 7463

**SUPR**

**6/25-26/13** – Advance Boat Operation and Safety Training, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Eric Nold, 7488

**6/27/13** – Federal Emergency Management Agency – Region 7 All-Hazards Plan Table-Top Exercise, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Susan Fisher, 7919

**8/28/13** – State of Missouri – Chem/Bio Functional Exercise, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Megan Schuette, 7630

**WWPD**

**6/25-26/13** – Nutrient Stewardship Summit, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Damon Frizzell, 7560

**6/27/13** – Meeting with Kansas Department of Health and Environment on Permit Reporting, Topeka, Kan. Contacts: Karen Flourney, 7782, Diane Huffman, 7544

7/1/13 - Review of Kickapoo Nation's FY-14 Nonpoint Source/Clean Water Act Section 319 Workplan, Lawrence, Kan. Contact: Peter Davis, 7372